IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims remain as follows:

1.   (Previously Presented)   A method for dynamically linking a storage space to a network server, comprising:

adding a new disk drive image to a network server description for the network server through a host server operating system, the new disk drive image corresponding to the storage space to be linked;

sending a dynamic linking request from the host server operating system to a network server operating system;

in response to the dynamic linking request, sending a device scanning request from the network server operating system to the host server operating system;

in response to the device scanning request, requesting a response from each device connected to each SCSI port of a host server and reporting the new disk drive image to the network server operating system; and

presenting the new disk drive image to users connected to the network server.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

locking the new disk drive image and storing open pointers of the storage space prior to sending the dynamic linking request.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the storage space resides on a storage device connected to a SCSI port of a host server.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the device scanning request is sent from a device driver of the network server operating system to the host server operating system.

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5.   (Original)   The method of claim 4 wherein a disk management program on the host server operating system requests response from each device connected to each SCSI port of a host server and reports the new disk drive image to device driver of the network server operating system.

6.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the storage space includes existing data.

7.   (Previously Presented)   A method for linking a storage space to an active server, comprising:

adding a new disk drive image to a server description for the server, the new disk drive image corresponding to the storage space to be linked;

detecting changes on a SCSI bus indicating the new disk drive image corresponding to the storage space, wherein detecting changes on the SCSI bus comprises:

sending a device scanning request from a device driver of a server operating system;

in response to the device scanning request, requesting a response from each device connected to each SCSI port of the server; and

reporting the new disk drive image to the device driver; and

presenting the new disk drive image to users connected to the server.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 7, further comprising:

after adding the new disk drive image, locking the new disk drive image and storing open pointers of the storage space.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 7 wherein the storage space includes existing data.

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11.   (Previously Presented)   A method for linking a storage space to an active network server, comprising:

adding a new disk drive image to a network server description for the network server through a host server operating system, the new disk drive image corresponding to the storage space to be linked, the storage space residing on a storage device connected to a SCSI port of a host server;

locking the new disk drive image and storing open pointers of the storage space;

sending a linking request from the host server operating system to a network server operating system;

in response to the linking request, sending a device scanning request from a device driver of the network server operating system to a disk management program of the host server operating system;

in response to the device scanning request, detecting changes on a SCSI bus of the host server, requesting a response from each device connected to each SCSI port of the host server and reporting the new disk drive image to the disk driver of the network server operating system; and

presenting the new disk drive image to users connected to the network server.

12.   (Original)   The method of claim 11 wherein a disk management program on the host server operating system responds to the device scanning request.

13.   (Original)   The method of claim 11 wherein the storage space includes existing data.

14.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the new disk drive image is created as a file which is equivalent in size to the storage space to be linked.

15.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 7, wherein the new disk drive image is created as a file which is equivalent in size to the storage space to be linked.

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16.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 11, wherein the new disk drive image is created as a file which is equivalent in size to the storage space to be linked.

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